

HONORABLE BARBARA J. ROTHSTEIN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

NIKITA TARVER,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CITY OF SEATTLE AND SEVERAL
UNKNOWN OFFICERS,

Defendants.

No. 2:22-cv-00736-BJR

STIPULATED
PROTECTIVE ORDER

1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this agreement is consistent with LCR 26(c). It does not confer blanket protection on all disclosures or responses to discovery, the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles, and it does not presumptively entitle parties to file confidential information under seal.

1 2. “CONFIDENTIAL” MATERIAL

2 “Confidential” material may include the following documents and tangible things produced
3 or otherwise exchanged: (1) medical, psychological, employment, financial and family related
4 records of plaintiff, defendants and/or third parties (including personal financial, medical,
5 psychological or family related materials that are relevant to the action; personal financial, medical,
6 psychological or family related materials, that are not relevant to this action will be redacted); (2)
7 records that could implicate privacy rights of the individual defendants, plaintiff or third parties,
8 including, but not limited to, personal identifying information (“PII”) such as date of birth, social
9 security number, personal home address, phone number, e-mail address, criminal record number,
10 driver’s license number, and state identification number; (3) personal financial information; (4)
11 passport information; (5) immigration status; (6) video recordings within correctional facilities; (7)
12 any information protected from release by statute and exempt from public disclosure; (8) police
personnel files; and (9) non-public tactical policies and procedures and training protocols.

13 3. SCOPE

14 The protections conferred by this agreement cover not only confidential material (as defined
15 above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from confidential material; (2) all copies,
16 excerpts, summaries, or compilations of confidential material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or
presentations by parties or their counsel that might reveal confidential material.

17 However, the protections conferred by this agreement do not cover information that is in the
18 public domain or becomes part of the public domain through trial or otherwise.

19 4. ACCESS TO AND USE OF CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

20 4.1 Basic Principles. A receiving party may use confidential material that is disclosed or
21 produced by another party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for evaluation of the
22 material or of the case, prosecuting and/or defending the case, evaluation experts and expert opinions
23 or attempting to settle this litigation. Confidential material may be disclosed only to the categories of
persons and under the conditions described in this agreement. Confidential material must be stored

1 and maintained by a receiving party at a location and in a reasonably secure manner that ensures that
2 access is limited to the persons authorized under this agreement.

3 4.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered by
4 the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may disclose any
5 confidential material only to:

6 (a) the receiving party’s counsel of record in this action, as well as employees of
7 counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this litigation;

8 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including in house counsel) of the
9 receiving party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation, unless the parties agree
10 that a particular document or material produced is for Attorney’s Eyes Only and is so designated;

11 (c) experts and consultants to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this
12 litigation and if provided copies of said material, have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement
13 to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

14 (d) the court, court personnel, and court reporters and their staff;

15 (e) copy or imaging services retained by counsel to assist in the duplication of
16 confidential material, provided that counsel for the party retaining the copy or imaging service
17 instructs the service not to disclose any confidential material to third parties and to immediately return
18 all originals and copies of any confidential material;

19 (f) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is
20 reasonably necessary, or who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound”
21 (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the designating party or ordered by the court. Pages of
22 transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal confidential material must be
23 separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted under
this agreement;

(g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a custodian
or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information; and

1 (h) mediators and their staff.

2 4.3 Filing Confidential Material. Before filing confidential material or discussing or
3 referencing such material in court filings, the filing party shall confer with the designating party, in
4 accordance with Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(A), to determine whether the designating party will
5 remove the confidential designation, whether the document can be redacted, or whether a motion to
6 seal or stipulation and proposed order is warranted. During the meet and confer process, the
7 designating party must identify the basis for sealing the specific confidential information at issue,
8 and the filing party shall include this basis in its motion to seal, along with any objection to sealing
9 the information at issue. Local Civil Rule 5(g) sets forth the procedures that must be followed and
10 the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from the court to file material under
11 seal. A party who seeks to maintain the confidentiality of its information must satisfy the
12 requirements of Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(B), even if it is not the party filing the motion to seal.
13 Failure to satisfy this requirement will result in the motion to seal being denied, in accordance with
14 the strong presumption of public access to the Court's files.

15 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

16 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each party or
17 non-party that designates information or items for protection under this agreement must take care to
18 limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate standards. The
19 designating party must designate for protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or
20 oral or written communications that qualify, so that other portions of the material, documents, items,
21 or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit
22 of this agreement.

23 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are shown
to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to unnecessarily
encumber or delay the case development process or to impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on
other parties) expose the designating party to sanctions.

1 If it comes to a designating party's attention that information or items that it designated for
2 protection do not qualify for protection, the designating party must promptly notify all other parties
3 that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation.

4 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this agreement
5 (see, *e.g.*, second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise stipulated or ordered, disclosure
6 or discovery material that qualifies for protection under this agreement must be clearly so designated
7 before or when the material is disclosed or produced.

8 (a) Information in documentary form: (*e.g.*, paper or electronic documents and
9 deposition exhibits, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings),
10 the designating party must affix the word "CONFIDENTIAL" to each page that contains
11 confidential material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection,
12 the producing party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (*e.g.*, by making appropriate
13 markings in the margins).

14 (b) Testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial proceedings: the parties and
15 any participating non-parties must identify on the record, during the deposition or other pretrial
16 proceeding, all protected testimony. If a party or non-party desires to protect confidential
17 information at trial, the issue should be addressed during the pre-trial conference.

18 (c) Other tangible items: the producing party must affix in a prominent place on
19 the exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored the word
20 "CONFIDENTIAL." If only a portion or portions of the information or item warrant protection, the
21 producing party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).

22 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to
23 designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the designating party's right
to secure protection under this agreement for such material after a meet and confer process. If the
parties cannot agree to the proposed designation the issue shall be brought to the attention of the
Court. Upon timely correction of a designation, as set forth above, the receiving party must make

1 reasonable efforts to ensure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this
2 agreement.

3 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

4 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any party or non-party may challenge a designation of
5 confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a designating party's confidentiality
6 designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic burdens,
7 or a significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a party does not waive its right to challenge a
8 confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the original
9 designation is disclosed.

10 6.2 Meet and Confer. The parties must make every attempt to resolve any dispute
11 regarding confidential designations without court involvement. Any motion regarding confidential
12 designations or for a protective order must include a certification, in the motion or in a declaration
13 or affidavit, that the movant has engaged in a good faith meet and confer conference with other
14 affected parties in an effort to resolve the dispute without court action. The certification must list the
15 date, manner, and participants to the conference. A good faith effort to confer requires a face-to-face
16 meeting or a telephone conference.

17 6.3 Judicial Intervention. If the parties cannot resolve a challenge without court
18 intervention, the designating party may file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under Local
19 Civil Rule 7 (and in compliance with Local Civil Rule 5(g), if applicable). The burden of persuasion
20 in any such motion shall be on the designating party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an
21 improper purpose (*e.g.*, to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may
22 expose the challenging party to sanctions. All parties shall continue to maintain the material in
23 question as confidential until the court rules on the challenge.

7. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER
LITIGATION

1 If a party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that compels
 2 disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as “CONFIDENTIAL,” that party
 3 must:

4 (a) promptly notify the designating party in writing and include a copy of the
 5 subpoena or court order;

6 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue
 7 in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject to
 8 this agreement. Such notification shall include a copy of this agreement; and

9 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by
 10 the designating party whose confidential material may be affected.

11 8. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

12 If a receiving party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed confidential
 13 material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this agreement, the receiving
 14 party must immediately (a) notify in writing the designating party of the unauthorized disclosures,
 15 (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the protected material, (c) inform the
 16 person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this agreement,
 17 and (d) request that such person or persons execute the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be
 18 Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

19 9. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED
 20 MATERIAL

21 When a producing party gives notice to receiving parties that certain inadvertently produced
 22 material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the receiving parties
 23 are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to
 modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order or agreement that provides
 for production without prior privilege review. The parties agree to the entry of a non-waiver order
 under Fed. R. Evid. 502(d) as set forth herein.

10. NON TERMINATION AND RETURN OF DOCUMENTS

Within 60 days after the termination of this action, including all appeals, each receiving party must return all confidential material to the producing party, including all copies, extracts and summaries thereof. Alternatively, the parties may agree upon appropriate methods of destruction.

Notwithstanding this provision, counsel are entitled to retain one archival copy of all documents filed with the court, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, correspondence, deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if such materials contain confidential material. Any such archival copies that contain or constitute protected material remain subject to this Protective Order.

The confidentiality obligations imposed by this agreement shall remain in effect until a designating party agrees otherwise in writing or a court orders otherwise.

IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

DATED: December 12, 2022

/s/Jesse Valdez

James Bible, WSBA# 33985

Jesse Valdez, WSBA #35378

Attorneys for Plaintiff

DATED: December 13, 2022

/s/Brandon Rain

Brandon Rain, WSBA #45247

Alexandra Nica, WSBA #58299

Attorneys for Defendants

PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 502(d), the production of any documents in this proceeding shall not, for the purposes of this proceeding or any other federal or state proceeding, constitute a waiver by the producing party of any privilege applicable to those documents, including the attorney-client privilege, attorney work-product protection, or any other privilege or protection recognized by law.

DATED: 12/14/22



The Honorable Barbara J. Rothstein
United States District Court Judge